

Message

From: Mercurio, Cristina [Mercurio.Cristina@epa.gov]
Sent: 9/20/2017 2:26:32 PM
To: Hill-Macon, Cam [Hill-Macon.Cam@epa.gov]
Subject: Note to Embassy Kenya

FYI....

From: Mercurio, Cristina
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 10:26 AM
To: 'Albertine, Tatum L' <AlbertineTL@state.gov>
Cc: Terry, Sara <Terry.Sara@epa.gov>; Nyce, Christopher M (Addis Ababa) <NyceC@state.gov>; Teka, Yeneneh L (Addis Ababa) <TekaYL@state.gov>; Dhillon, Pushpinder S <DhillonPS@state.gov>; De Angelis, Christian <DeAngelisCR@state.gov>; Gwira, N. Kofi <GwiraNK@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Catching up on the Megacity Partnership

Hi Tatum,

Given the ongoing political and security uncertainties in Kenya, we at EPA have decided to forgo considering Nairobi as a partner under the Megacity Partnership for this round.

FYI, the two cities we are now considering as the next partner under this program are Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and Johannesburg, South Africa. We're working with Chris and Yeneneh in planning a scoping mission to Addis during the week of Oct. 23.

As mentioned to Chris and Yeneneh during our call today, we hope to be able to include Kenyan experts in some of the trainings and consultations that would be conducted with Addis under the Partnership, should Addis be selected. We see a lot of promise in the work that is beginning in Nairobi on air quality and would like to support them in less direct ways depending upon available budget and the Kenyans' time availability.

Thanks for your support to date and we look forward to being in touch as opportunities arise for Kenyan stakeholders to be involved.

All the best.

Cristina

Cristina Mercurio
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From: Albertine, Tatum L [<mailto:AlbertineTL@state.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2017 4:34 AM
To: Mercurio, Cristina <Mercurio.Cristina@epa.gov>
Cc: Terry, Sara <Terry.Sara@epa.gov>; Nyce, Christopher M (Addis Ababa) <NyceC@state.gov>; Teka, Yeneneh L (Addis

Ababa) <TekaYL@state.gov>; Dhillon, Pushpinder S <DhillonPS@state.gov>; De Angelis, Christian <DeAngelisCR@state.gov>; Gwira, N. Kofi <GwiraNK@state.gov>

Subject: RE: Catching up on the Megacity Partnership

Hi Cristina,

Thank you for reaching out again about the Megacities program.

We are not going to be able to support any TDYs until at least October 31. The Government of Kenya overturned the results of their recently-held general elections and the GOK will be holding another election on October 17. We may be able to support TDYs after Oct 31, but no other information on the continued TDY freeze is available at this time. We'll be in touch with more information as it becomes available.

Regards,
Tatum

Tatum Albertine
Environment, Science, Technology and Health Officer
Embassy of the United States of America
Nairobi, Kenya

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Mercurio, Cristina [<mailto:Mercurio.Cristina@epa.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 9:52 PM
To: Albertine, Tatum L
Cc: Terry, Sara; Nyce, Christopher M (Addis Ababa); Teka, Yeneneh L (Addis Ababa)
Subject: Catching up on the Megacity Partnership

Dear Tatum,

I understand from Chris Nyce that you and he had a chance to talk last week about the EPA Megacities Partnership. I wanted to reach out as we haven't been in touch directly on this since postponing our trip back in May.

As a reminder with respect to the proposed Megacity Partnership scoping mission to Nairobi (which would be back-to-back with a similar trip to Addis) please see my e-mail to you of April 4 below which outlines the scoping mission team, purpose, proposed meetings, information sought (also attached above is a list of questions we would be asking) and a summary of what the Partnership entails. The latter being to:

- * Identify the air pollutants and emission sources that most contribute to poor air quality and, as appropriate, also promote climate change (short lived climate pollutants (SLCPs).

- * Develop a model air quality action plan, including a control strategy, to reduce fine particulate matter (PM2.5), including black carbon, and other key air pollutants (e.g., ozone, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides) from identified sources.

- * Using tools developed under the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to provide a framework for analyzing the benefits of air pollution control, in terms of healthier populations, climate impacts and economic productivity, as well as the costs of these programs, for comparison and priority setting.

- * Deploy effective communication regarding mitigation options and benefits to decision makers and the public.

* Build capacity within national or city level governing bodies to develop and implement air pollution reduction strategies, optimizing these strategies for public health and climate co-benefits.

* Establish regional expertise in air quality management and implementation on which to base expanded action in other African cities.

We certainly understand the security concerns in connection with the recent election as well as your concerns regarding the amount of Embassy staff time this program might require if implemented in Nairobi.

In terms of the security situation, we, of course, defer to you folks at the Embassy with regard to whether and when we can travel to Nairobi. We would like tentatively put forward either the last week in Oct or first week in Nov as a possible timeframe for our scoping visit there. Any thoughts about those dates? I understand there's currently a general USG travel ban but that it is slated to be lifted in mid-Oct, is that right?

Just as important, we understand your concern with respect to the workload with regard to Embassy time that this program might entail. As I think you discussed with Chris, we have key partners in Nairobi who are willing to help arrange for many if not most of our meetings. The Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI) has an office in Nairobi and has indicated that they would be happy to arrange our meetings. I know you would like to maintain some control/involvement when it comes to Government of Kenya outreach so please let us know whether there's a particular approach that might work best for you.

We understand that you'll be out of the office for several weeks. Is there a good time on your return to set up a call to discuss these issues?

Thanks and all the best.

Cristina

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From: Mercurio, Cristina
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 4:54 PM
To: Albertine, Tatum L <AlbertineTL@state.gov>
Cc: Terry, Sara <Terry.Sara@epa.gov>
Subject: Scoping Mission to Nairobi for the Megacity Partnership

Hi Tatum,

Glad that the week of May 22 works for our scoping mission to Nairobi. It would be great if you/someone at the Embassy could schedule our meetings. Please see the following and the attached for information and let me know if you'd like to discuss this further. We'll try to get a better sense of the agenda for the Kenya Air Quality Network Meeting on May 25-26 and figure out when it would be best to attend.

Nairobi Scoping Mission Dates: May 22-26, 2017

Scoping Team:

Cristina Mercurio, Sub-Saharan Africa Programs Manager, EPA's Office of International and Tribal Affairs
Sara Terry, Senior Policy Advisor, EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards

Scoping Purpose:

To inform a final decision regarding which city in Africa to expand the Africa Megacity Partnership. The Partnership, originally developed and implemented in Accra, Ghana, is designed to deliver support in basic air quality management principles, deploy training and technical expertise, enable effective communication to decision makers regarding mitigation options and benefits, and promote rapid adoption of proven control strategies for priority sectors.

Meetings Requested With:

- Kenya Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
- Kenya National Environmental Management Authority
- Kenya Ministry of Health: Department of Preventive and Promotive Health and Department of Standards, Quality Assurance and Regulations
- Kenya Meteorological Department
- Kenya Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure Housing and Urban Development
- Kenya Ministry of Energy
- Nairobi City County
- Nairobi City Council- Department of Environment
- UNEP
- Partnership on Clean Fuels and Vehicles
- Division of Early Warning and Assessment
 - UNHABITAT
 - WHO
 - Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves
 - Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)
 - Regional Center for Mapping and Resources for Development (RCMRD)
 - University of Nairobi- Institute of Development Studies, Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology
 - African Population & Health Research Center
 - Kenya Alliance of Resident Associations (KARA)
 - NGO(s) TBD
- Earthjustice

Information Sought:

Attached are the set of questions that we will ask during the various meetings of the scoping mission in May.

For More Detailed Information:

Also attached is a summary document that explains the Megacity Partnership as currently implemented in Accra. Under that project, now in its second year, the USEPA has developed a framework for air quality management that is ready for application in a second African city.

* Identify the air pollutants and emission sources that most contribute to poor air quality and, as appropriate, also promote climate change (short lived climate pollutants (SLCPs).

* Develop a model air quality action plan, including a control strategy, to reduce fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), including black carbon, and other key air pollutants (e.g., ozone, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides) from identified sources.

* Using tools developed under the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to provide a framework for analyzing the benefits of air pollution control, in terms of healthier populations, climate impacts and economic productivity, as well as the costs of these programs, for comparison and priority setting.

- * Deploy effective communication regarding mitigation options and benefits to decision makers and the public.
- * Build capacity within national or city level governing bodies to develop and implement air pollution reduction strategies, optimizing these strategies for public health and climate co-benefits.
- * Establish regional expertise in air quality management and implementation on which to base expanded action in other African cities.

Many thanks.

Cristina

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From: Mercurio, Cristina
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 2:50 PM
To: Terry, Sara <Terry.Sara@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Scoping Mission to Addis for the Megacity Partnership

Sara,

Would you want to put together a blurb for both Embassies to use in setting up our scoping mission meetings with the stakeholders in each city? We might want the writeup for the African Union to be more continent-wide in focus. Let me know if you want to talk about it.

Cristina

From: Mercurio, Cristina
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:58 AM
To: 'Metzler, Meredith T (Addis Ababa)' <MetzlerMT@state.gov>; Hamilton, Susan T (Addis Ababa) <HamiltonST@state.gov>
Cc: Terry, Sara <Terry.Sara@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Scoping Mission to Addis for the Megacity Partnership

Hi Meredith,

Yes, it would be great to meet with the African Union environment folks themselves. It wouldn't need to be more than ½ hour. I'll work with my colleague, Sara, to come up with a summary of what we would like to discuss with them and, Susan, have something similar to help you when scheduling our other meetings.

Thanks and all the best.

Cristina

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From: Metzler, Meredith T (Addis Ababa) [<mailto:MetzlerMT@state.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 10:41 AM
To: Hamilton, Susan T (Addis Ababa) <HamiltonST@state.gov>; Mercurio, Cristina <Mercurio.Cristina@epa.gov>
Cc: Terry, Sara <Terry.Sara@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Scoping Mission to Addis for the Megacity Partnership

Hi Cristina,
I may be in Washington on training that week, but otherwise 10:00 on May 16 would work for me. Do you want to meet with African Union staff as well? If so we will need to give them a paragraph or two on what you would like to discuss. They get a little overwhelmed sometimes with requests for time from partners, and we're trying to limit meetings to discussion of concrete proposals when we can.
Best,
Meredith

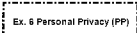
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UNCLASSIFIED

From: Hamilton, Susan T (Addis Ababa)
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 2:59 PM
To: Mercurio, Cristina; Metzler, Meredith T (Addis Ababa)
Cc: Terry, Sara
Subject: RE: Scoping Mission to Addis for the Megacity Partnership

Dear Meredith – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is interested in pursuing a scoping mission for their Africa Megacity Partnership in Addis Ababa (please see their email of March 22 below).

Could you please work with them to schedule a possible meeting time with your office during their May 15 – 17 visit to Addis? I would like to also be present at the meeting so please keep me looped in to a possible date and time.

Thank you,
Susan Hamilton

Susan T. Hamilton | Regional Environment Office for East Africa | U.S. Embassy Addis Ababa  hamiltonst@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Mercurio, Cristina [<mailto:Mercurio.Cristina@epa.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 11:48 PM

To: Hamilton, Susan T (Addis Ababa)
Cc: Terry, Sara; Megill, Jessica S (Addis Ababa); Teka, Yeneneh L (Addis Ababa)
Subject: RE: Scoping Mission to Addis for the Megacity Partnership

Susan,

We'd also like to meet with the African Union environment section if that's possible.

Thanks.

Cristina

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From: Mercurio, Cristina
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 9:31 AM
To: 'Hamilton, Susan T (Addis Ababa)' <HamiltonST@state.gov>
Cc: Terry, Sara <Terry.Sara@epa.gov>; Megill, Jessica S (Addis Ababa) <MegillJS@state.gov>; Teka, Yeneneh L (Addis Ababa) <TekaYL@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Scoping Mission to Addis for the Megacity Partnership

Hi Susan,

That's great and thanks.

We are working on our travel documents and will be sending the request for clearance soon. FYI, we'll be staying at the Sheraton and will include the request for Embassy assistance in booking the hotel and for scheduling meetings in the cable.

Thanks again.

Cristina

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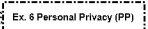
From: Hamilton, Susan T (Addis Ababa) [<mailto:HamiltonST@state.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 2:47 AM
To: Mercurio, Cristina <Mercurio.Cristina@epa.gov>
Cc: Terry, Sara <Terry.Sara@epa.gov>; Megill, Jessica S (Addis Ababa) <MegillJS@state.gov>; Teka, Yeneneh L (Addis Ababa) <TekaYL@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Scoping Mission to Addis for the Megacity Partnership

Dear Cristina – We look forward to seeing you in Addis Ababa May 15 – 17. I will be attending meetings with you and Sara to serve as a note taker.

Our schedule has changed as the ESTH May meeting in Accra has been changed to an ESTH June meeting in Gaborone.

I will be looping in our Visitor Support Unit to let them know of your intended visit.

Best regards,
Susan Hamilton

Susan T. Hamilton | Regional Environment Office for East Africa | U.S. Embassy Addis Ababa  hamiltonst@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Mercurio, Cristina [<mailto:Mercurio.Cristina@epa.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 4:12 PM
To: Hamilton, Susan T (Addis Ababa)
Cc: Terry, Sara
Subject: Scoping Mission to Addis for the Megacity Partnership

Hi Susan,

Thanks for taking the time to talk with us last Thursday with respect to the Africa Megacity Partnership and proposed scoping mission to Addis Ababa. EPA is interested in pursuing a scoping mission for the Megacity Partnership in Addis Ababa for three main reasons:

- 1) Air pollution is the second most important risk factor driving death and disability in Ethiopia.
- 2) To explore the possibility of capitalizing on existing air quality related projects currently underway by a number of partners, including the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, as well as air quality related data being generated by the 2 Embassy monitors and the expected monitors provided under the NIEHS GEOHealth Hub grant.
- 3) To explore the possibility that a policy/political will window for action may open over the next two years, as a result of a newly appointed Institutional Strengthening staff (supported by CCAC) appointed to the national government, and the new air quality data. The megacity partnership would help build analytical and communication capacity to translate that data and help make the business case for action.

As discussed, the scoping mission would consist of Sara Terry, EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, and myself. The following is an initial list of the organizations with whom we would like to meet and we would be happy to discuss this with you further.

- 1) Ethiopian Ministry of Environment and Forest

- 2) Ethiopian EPA
- 3) National Meteorology Agency
- 4) Standards Agency
- 5) Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Energy
- 6) Ministry of Urban Development, Housing and Construction: Urban Governance and Capacity Building Bureau
- 7) Addis Ababa City Administration Environment Protection Authority
- 8) Addis Ababa City Roads Authority
- 9) Addis Ababa Solid Waste Recycling and Disposal Project Office
- 10) Addis Ababa Urban Planning Institute
- 11) Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre and Network
- 12) University of Addis Ababa
- 13) ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability Addis Ababa Office/Rep
- 14) Rockefeller Foundation Resilient Cities Program Officer
- 15) World Bank
- 16) Population Health & Environment Ethiopia Consortium (NGO) (www.phe-ethiopia.org)
- 17) Gaia Association (NGO on clean cookstoves)
- 18) Other NGOs?
- 19) Other donors?

We understand that you will be attending the ESTH Meeting in Accra from May 17-19. Given scheduling issues from our end, we would like to come to Addis for meetings from May 15-17. We're hoping that this is workable. Sara and I are seasoned Africa travelers (I've been to Addis 4 times) and quite self-sufficient so would be fine with attending meetings on our own if that is how things work out.

Thanks and all the best.

Cristina

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From: Mercurio, Cristina
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 2:27 PM
To: Terry, Sara <Terry.Sara@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Agenda for OES AQ Distance Learning

Thanks. FYI, I'm on my compressed day on Mon. I'll send a note back to Embassy Addis when you get a chance to send me a short justification for our wanting to include Addis in our scoping mission.

Have a good weekend!

Cristina

From: Terry, Sara
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 1:42 PM

To: Mercurio, Cristina <Mercurio.Cristina@epa.gov>

Subject: Agenda for OES AQ Distance Learning

I got this from Dale, I wouldn't share widely yet. There may be some additional changes next week.

Sara